

01-03-02

GP/3613/18

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#5/A

In re U.S. Patent Application of:

McCraw et al)
Serial No.: 09/627,621)
Filed: July 28, 2000)
For: MATTRESS SPRING)
CUSHION ASSEMBLY WITH)
COMBINATION OF RIGHT-)
HAND AND LEFT-HAND)
SPRING UNITS)

Patent Examiner: D. Kramer

Group Art Unit: 3613

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Charlotte, North Carolina, December 27, 2001

BOX FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 3, 2001, please enter the following
amendments in this application:

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1, 8, and 9 as follows:

al 1. A spring cushion assembly comprising a plurality of spring coils aligned with one another in parallel linear spring coil rows and parallel linear spring coil columns perpendicular to the spring coil rows, each spring coil being of a configuration producing a tendency to incline laterally when compressed, each spring coil row and each spring coil column comprising spring coils oriented relative to one another to incline in opposing directions for counteracting the tendency of the spring coils to incline, at least selected ones of the spring coils comprising open end turns.

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[Cancel Claim 8.

~~8~~. A spring cushion assembly according to claim 1, wherein the selected spring coils

a2 comprise open upper and lower end turns.

[Add the following new claims 18-39:

17 ~~17~~18. (New) A spring cushion assembly comprising a plurality of spring coils aligned with one another in parallel linear spring coil rows and parallel linear spring coil columns perpendicular to the spring coil rows, each spring coil being of a configuration producing a tendency to incline laterally when compressed, each spring coil row and each spring coil column comprising spring coils oriented relative to one another to incline in opposing

directions for counteracting the tendency of the spring coils to incline, a perimeter border wire disposed outwardly about the plurality of spring coils and connected to selected ones thereof, and a plurality of connector wires extending between selected adjacent rows or selected adjacent columns and connected to the spring coils thereof for integrating the pluralities of spring coils together.

0-3 18 ~~18~~19. (New) A spring cushion assembly according to claim ~~18~~17, wherein each spring coil comprises an upper end turn and a lower end turn, the upper end turns of the plurality of spring coils being essentially co-planar with one another and the lower end turns of the plurality of spring coils being essentially co-planar with one another, and further comprising upper and lower perimeter border wires respectively disposed outwardly about and connected to selected ones of the co-planar upper and lower end turns of the plurality of spring coils, and upper and lower connector wires extending between selected adjacent rows or selected adjacent columns and connected respectively to the upper and lower end turns of the spring coils thereof.

¹⁹~~20~~. (New) A spring cushion assembly according to claim ¹⁷~~16~~ or ¹⁸~~19~~, wherein the connector wires are helical.

²⁰~~21~~. (New) A spring cushion assembly according to claim ¹⁸~~19~~, wherein the upper and lower end turns are open and each of the spring coils comprises a full number of coil turns between the open upper and lower end turns thereof.

²¹~~22~~. (New) A spring cushion assembly according to claim ¹⁷~~18~~, ²⁰~~19~~ or ~~21~~, wherein the spring cushion assembly is a mattress spring assembly.

REMARKS

As now amended, claims 1-7 and 9-22 are presented in this application.

In the Office Action, original claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as assertedly anticipated by Rodebaugh U.S. Patent No. 279,188. On the other hand, claims 8-17 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By the foregoing amendments, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 8, thereby representing a rewriting of claim 8 in independent form. Claim 8 has accordingly been canceled and claim 9 has been amended to change its dependency from claim 8 to claim 1. Accordingly, each of claims 1-7 and 9-17 should now be in condition for formal allowance.

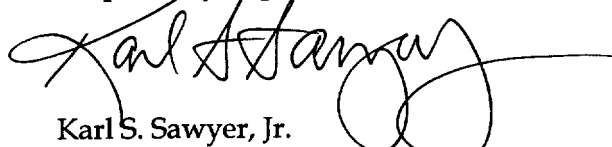
The present amendment also presents new claims 18-22 of which claim 18 is the only independent claim. New independent claim 18 represents a rewriting of allowable claim 13 in independent form, whereby new claim 18 and its respective dependent claims 19-22 should also now be in condition for formal allowance.

For all of the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the standing claims in this application are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

A check in the amount of \$18.00 is enclosed in payment of the additional filing fees due for the new claims. Any overpayment may be credited and any underpayment may be charged to Deposit Account 18-1215 of the undersigned.

A mark-up of claims 19 and 9 is attached to show the changes made therein.

Respectfully requested,



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